

Richd Clarke Esq
Leicester-Square Feb^r 28th 1776

Dear Sir

I am favored with yours of 27th Jan^r by Maj^r Meghart, and am by it happily relieved of the anxiety I have suffered from the apprehension of the distresses which you, and my other friends in Boston might be exposed to, and the account the Major gives of a large supply from Halifax which had lately arrived, (I presume after the date of your Letter) and of a further quantity that was expected from Capt^r Wallis, makes me hope that you will get through the winter with some degree of comfort, after which I trust you will be effectually relieved.

We have got all the articles which were prepared aboard the donation ship, which I am told will sail in a day or two, and I hope that they will not come to you unreasonably, especially as I don't no freight will be exacted, but of this I am not yet certain.

I have got the measure of the shoe from Mrs Wilkins, I shall have the shoes conformed in a good measure to your directions, but have not yet found a way to send them, I can't send them by the donation ship as I don't know any person going in her, I expect some of our Countrymen will be returning soon, and that one or other of them will do me the favor to take them, Mrs Wilkins seal me your letter to her, and writes me that she feared it would not be in their power to send the articles you write for on the term you mention, I think I have wrote, that I don't know any way of sending you any live stock from hence, as to the method you mention of preserving fresh meat, I have enquired about it as I have never had opportunity, I shall make further inquiries, & if I should be satisfied that it will answer, I will have some put up, if I see any opportunity

opportunity of sending it to you -

I note your directions about your money in my hand, granted on
the rise of exchange, and the uncertainty of the place where you may be; ask
the last I have wrote what I know of the plan which I suppose you refer to,
to Judge Oliver, and if I should know of any future alteration, I shall
endeavor to advise you of it; at present I think you may make your self
easy on this point, I presume it to be your intention to keep this money
in hand, that if an opportunity of improving it to considerable advantage
in the way we thought of, should present, it may not be out of our power
to make use of it. I have wrote you before of the difficulty of placing money
in private hands with safety, and of the precariousness of the public funds at
this present juncture, I shall in the mean time be endeavoring to find
out some safe way of improving it here, in case there should be no en-
couragement to send it out, or the difficulty of doing this, arising from the
restraining law should be too great.

The account we^t comes to us of the defeat of the rebels at Quebec
is generally believed here, excepting by those who wish it may not prove
true, of which party the number in this City is not small; ~~other~~ but I am
well informed, that the present measures with respect to America, ~~are~~
are supported by a very great majority of the nation; and there is some
appearance of Government gaining ground in the City, last evening the poll
for a Chamberlain, a place of 2000 £ ster. was closed after a hot contest of 8
days, between Mr. Withers & Mr. Hopkins, when the latter had 170 votes more
than the former, although the former was warmly supported by the Lord Mayor;
I am with my love to Sister & the Children -

Your affectionate Brother
Richard Clarke

March 1st I have sent to Mrs. Bostwick's Lodgings a box,
cont'd the shoes for your Children, and some for Mrs. Brown
field & my Son Neddy, and Mrs. Salterat w^t you wrote for, the
box is directed for Mrs. Bostwick from Mr. Colchester, and a
direction for you on a Card in the box, the rabbit is
in brown paper directed for you, the box would not hold
it. I enclose accds of these articles, I find the shoes are
not exactly conformed to y^r directions to Mrs. Wilkins,
as what you wrote here differed something from
your order to me, by w^t I had directed the Doctor to
be paid. We have got all the provision aboard
the Ship, saving some part of the Pistoles, they are
shipt on the equal accds of you & Mrs. Brownfield, and
you must divide them between you, this affair could not
be done any other way. I have not yet got the accds
or receipt for them, but expect to receive them in our
box or two, when shall enclose them in another
paper, being obliged to make up the pocket of several
letters now before me. G. Colchester

G. V. Colchester

The present circumstances would not permit saving
the drawback on the Pistoles. Mrs. W^rds gave me
yesterday your directions for 3 p^t. shoes for your self,
I shall send them as soon as I can.

RW 31a(2)

To

Isaac Winslow Esq^r

Boston

Recd. 28
July 1776

CH. T. 5559